

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-3, 6-13 and 26-28 are pending in the captioned application. Applicants have previously elected to prosecute, without traverse, the invention of Group II, claims 12, 13, 26-28. The Examiner has required a supplemental restriction of the claims, as they are regarded as belonging to two patentably distinct species.

Specifically, the Examiner regards claims 12 and 13 as *in vitro* methods and claims 26-28 as *in silico* methods. The Examiner states that that species are independent or distinct, and there is a search and examination burden to examine these species together.

In response, Applicants elect, without traverse, to prosecute species I, *in vitro* methods. Applicants submit that claims 12 and 13 encompass the elected species. Applicants hereby withdraw the non-elected species of claims 26-28 and reserve the right to prosecute these claims in one or more divisional applications.


Applicants respectfully assert that the claims are in allowable form and earnestly solicit the allowance of claims 12 and 13.

Appl. No. 10/532,369
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Reply to Office action of May 2, 2008

Early and favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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